

**The application of photoelastic coating technique in rock mechanics research.**

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*In the past three decades or so, the classical photoelastic technique was used intensively in rock mechanics research. However, the technique was limited to model analysis. The question here is whether the model represented the actual rock or not?*

*In recent years, the photoelastic coating technique was developed in the field of experimental stress analysis. The application to rock mechanics, so far, is still very limited. In this paper, the author wishes to discuss some potential and advantages of this technique in rock mechanics research.*